

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

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B1
1 (Currently amended). A disposable novelty sports apparatus comprising a shaft having a grip end and an oppositely spaced equipment end, the shaft comprising:

a polymer material that resiliently bends in response to a bending force applied between the grip end and the equipment end, and

an annular score line formed on the shaft between the grip end and the equipment end comprising a line of weakness,

the polymer material allowing a resilient bending of the shaft about the score line in response to the bending force, the bending force thus causing the shaft to deflect to a bend angle within determined parameters; and

the polymer material having an elastic memory to allow return of the shaft to a generally straightened and original condition once the bending force is removed; and

~~the shaft further having an annular score line formed on the shaft between the grip end and the equipment end comprising a line of weakness along which the shaft will permanently breaking~~
along the score line in response to application of the bending force about the score line within a specified range or when the shaft is deflected to a ~~determined~~ maximum bend angle that exceeds the determined parameters.

2 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the shaft has a generally curvilinear cross section.

3 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 2 wherein the cross section is generally round.

4 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 2 wherein the cross section is generally elliptical.

5 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 1 wherein the shaft has a generally rectilinear cross section.

6 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 5 wherein the cross section is generally rectangular.

7 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 5 wherein the cross section is generally octagonal.

8 (Original). An apparatus according to Claim 5 wherein the cross section is generally hexagonal.

9-10 (Canceled).

11 (Currently amended). An apparatus according to Claim 9 1 wherein the maximum bend angle is about 75 degrees.

12 (Original). An apparatus of Claim 1 wherein the polymer material is a resilient polymer.

13 (Original). An apparatus of Claim 12 wherein the resilient polymer is plastic.

14 (Original). An apparatus of claim 13 wherein the plastic is PVC.

15 (Original). An apparatus of claim 1 wherein the polymer material is extruded.

16 (Original). An apparatus of claim 1 wherein the polymer material is molded.

17 (Original). An apparatus of claim 1

wherein the polymer material is machined.

18 (Original). An apparatus of claim 1
wherein the equipment end includes a golf club head.

19-24 (Withdrawn).

25 (Currently amended). A method of using disposable novelty sports apparatus in a dramatic and humorous way to relieve frustration and stress comprising the steps:

providing disposable novelty sports apparatus having a shaft, the shaft comprising a resilient polymer material and an annular score line;

grasping an end of a shaft with a hand;

holding a second end of the shaft with a second hand;

bending the shaft about the score line to a range of bend angles, not to exceed a predetermined maximum bend angle;

returning the shaft to a normal position;

releasing the first and second ends of the shaft.

26 (Currently amended). A method of permanently breaking disposable novelty sports apparatus in a dramatic and humorous way to relieve frustration and stress comprising the steps:

providing disposable novelty sports apparatus having a shaft, the shaft ~~having a score line~~
and the shaft comprising a resilient polymer material and an annular score line;

grasping an end of a shaft with one hand;

holding a second end of the shaft with another hand;

bending the shaft about the score line through a predetermined range of bend angles;

flexing the shaft beyond ~~the a~~ a predetermined maximum bend angle;

breaking the shaft at the score line.

27 (Currently amended). A method according to Claim 26 further including the step of disposing of the broken shaft.